MAR 1 1 2003 V

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:	)	Confirmation No. 3944
Kazuo IMAMURA et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2877
Serial No. 09/554,599	)	Examiner: Kianni, Kaveh C.
Filed: May 26, 2000	)	
For: FIBER GRATING AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FABRICATING THE SAME	) ) )	
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING		

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents,

Washington, D.C. 2023 on March 4, 2003.

**AMENDMENT** 

Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 6, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 20 and 26 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 21-23, 25, 27 and 38 as follows. Please note the claims are presented below in their amended form. Furthermore, the claims are presented as an attachment to the amendment where the amendments are shown using the traditional technique of bracketing and underlining. Applicants have endeavored to maintain consistency between the marked-up and amended versions of the claims. However, should there be discrepancy, the clean version prevails.